

cause, and had ridiculed his *Metaphysics*. The idealistic turn in Wundt's mind, when revealed, found as little favour in that quarter; but there is no doubt that his development is strikingly representative of the change of thought which took place, not only in Germany but in other countries, during the nineteenth century, preparatory to the new Idealism of the future.

Another line of thought which helped in the same direction was just that which to many unthinking persons would seem to point in the opposite direction. This is what Huxley termed the "Agnosticism of the age."

22.
Agnosticism.

Though the term is novel, the truth it implies is old, being represented in earlier nineteenth century thought by the Kantian limitation imposed on human reasoning, and in this country by the position taken up by James Mill.

Mansel's 'Bampton Lectures' and Herbert Spencer's 'First Principles' (Part I.) drove it home to the popular mind. But probably the most impressive line of reasoning is to be found in the strictly logical analysis of the scientific terms "Matter" and "Force." This was effected in the domain of mathematical physics; independently by Thomson and Tait in England, Lotze and Wundt in Germany, and Renouvier in France.

For philosophical purposes a simple definition at the opening of Kirchhoff's Lectures on "Mechanics" marks an epoch, and was largely quoted by philosophical naturalists in Germany, though Kirchhoff, as little as Thomson and Tait, was aware that his definition marked a turning-point not only in scientific but also in philo-